

North Koreans

Unreached People Group from North Korea

Two Koreas

Before the 1900s, Korea was an agricultural society with strong family ties. At the end of World War II, the country was divided into two zones: the south was occupied by the U.S. and the north by the U.S.S.R.



The north was later renamed the Democratic People's Republic of (North) Korea or DPRK.

After the war, communists took steps to industrialize the country. Today, most urban North Koreans work in factories, while those in rural areas continue working on farms.

The one-party state government controls all aspects of life, including arts and entertainment. If anything conflicts with communist principles, it is forbidden.

Engaging with God

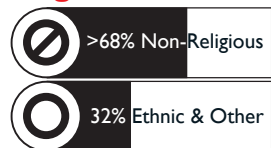
Pyeongyang, the capital of North Korea, was once called "the second Jerusalem." The government speaks of religious freedom, however kingdom workers know North Koreans who evangelize have a life expectancy of about 3 months from the time they start to evangelize. Christians who meet in secret take great risks and can be imprisoned for many years just for owning a Bible.

Population



N. Korea 25.2 million

Religion



Some North Koreans follow Cheondogyo. It teaches that paradise on earth is created solely through human effort.

Idolizing Leaders

DPRK's leaders are expected to be honored like gods. There are over 30,000 statues of Kim Il-sung, the country's first leader. Speeches are broadcast on loud speakers in public spaces reminding citizens to honor the government and obey their leaders.

Many citizens risk arrest fleeing to escape famine, oppression and DPRK's history of forced labor.

Language



Education

Education is free and mandatory for eleven years (which includes one year of preschool). Students must have communist party approval to continue beyond tenth grade. During summer vacations, students must work for the state.

Daily Life

Arranged marriages are still popular in rural areas; while urban singles often choose their own mates. Divorce rates are steadily increasing and it is no longer a disgrace.

A diet of mostly rice, is supplemented by fish, vegetables, or fruit. The national dish, kimchi (kimchee), is a highly spiced mixture of Chinese cabbage, white radishes, and other vegetables.

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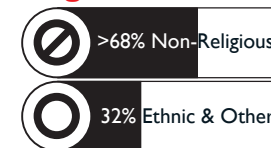
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Sources: kidsofcourage.com/Bold-Believers-in-North-Korea [pdf file], cia.gov/worldfactbook, joshuaproject.net

For more information please visit www.allnationsfamily.org



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